

Chicopee Register



The Chicopee Public Library staff with Mayor John Vieau in a group photo. TURLEY PHOTO BY KRISTIN RIVERS

Ice Cream with Mayor Vieau celebrates summer reading season

By Kristin Rivers
Editor
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CHICOPEE – The community gathered at the library’s backyard patio on Aug. 12 for their annual End of Summer Party and Ice Cream with the Mayor event.

The event featured ice cream served by library staff and Mayor John Vieau, coloring pages for the kids and a bounce house.

This year, 418 kids and teens signed up for Summer Reading, with the theme being “Plant a Seed, Read.”

Allisyn Jane Lopes was among the many kids in attendance, sharing she enjoyed the opportunity to have ice cream.

“Everything,” Lopes said. “Probably the gummy bears.”

Lopes said she was also excited to head back to school and start a new year.

“Seeing my new class and my new teacher,” Lopes said.

Vieau said “Education is Freedom: The Future Is In Your Hands” by James W. Keyes—who was this year’s

See ICE CREAM page 5

Center Fresh Farmer’s Market returns to Chicopee

By Christina Gioscia
Correspondent

CHICOPEE – The Center Fresh Farmer’s Market kicked off its return to the city on Aug. 19 at The Hub at Market Square in the heart of Chicopee.

This event features numerous vendors, food trucks and live music.

Originally run by the Greater Chicopee Chamber of Commerce, the farmer’s market is now overseen by the City of Chicopee and making its return after a one-year hiatus in 2025.

Farm Manager Anna Brittan shared a little about the process of running this year’s farmer’s market.

“I think the longest part of the process was just re-

See FARMER’S MARKET page 6



Organizers Anna Brittan and Izabella Poplawska at The Center Fresh Farmer’s Market on Aug. 19. TURLEY PHOTO BY CHRISTINA GIOSCIA

Chicopee superintendent outlines district’s progress

Dr. Marcus Ware
gave a detailed presentation Aug. 19

By Dalton Zbierski
Correspondent

CHICOPEE – During the Aug. 19 meeting of the School Committee, Superintendent Dr. Marcus Ware offered detailed information regarding where the district stands in a variety of facets.

At the onset of his PowerPoint presentation, Ware acknowledged he has now been in the position for three years, which is long enough to identify both progress and areas in need of improvement.

Ware noted that the district has five strategic priorities followed by four core values.

“So, everything that we do, every goal that we set out from my office is connected to this plan,” Ware said.

The priorities include creating caring and respectful places to learn, empowering and valuing students, facilitating academics that inspire, making family and community connections available and running effective operations with equitable resources.

The values are centered around respect, joy, belonging and growth.

According to Ware, the purpose of his appearance at the School Committee meeting was not to “sugarcoat” anything but instead offer direct feedback. From his perspective, the district is heading in the right direction.

As he delved into intricate data, the superintendent highlighted impressive growth for multilingual learners that has been recorded two years in a row.

“These are students who are on a spectrum of English proficiency. I want to be very clear here. This doesn’t mean students don’t have any language bases. It means that they have a base in another language outside of English. What we are doing is increasing their proficiency and [ability to master] the English language,” Ware said.

Another trend identified by Ware was a lack of growth in grades 9 and 10 across several areas.

“Again, Grades 9 and 10, there’s something there to be investigated,” Ware said. “It’s not where we want it to be in comparison to the other growths that you see in the younger grades.”

Ware said that overall, as a district, Chicopee students

See SUPT. OUTLINES PROGRESS page 8

Sheriff Nick Cocchi cookout brings out huge crowd

By Brendan Rooney
Correspondent

SPRINGFIELD – A record-breaking turnout marked Hampden County Sheriff Nick Cocchi’s ninth annual golf tournament and community cookout, with more than 3,000 people gathering under the Elks Lodge pavilion on Aug. 19.

The annual summer gathering traces its roots to a tradition established more than 40 years ago by Retired Hampden County Sheriff Michael J. Ashe Jr., who served 42 years in the role and was known for his clam bakes back in the day. Cocchi has remained steadfast in preserving the longstanding tradition, hosting a morning golf tournament at various locations across Western Massachusetts before culminating in an afternoon and evening of camaraderie and celebration; serving as one of the region’s premier political gatherings of the summer.

Elected officials and political hopefuls across the political spectrum attended and offered their views on how they would positively impact Western Massachusetts.

See COCCHI COOKOUT page 6



A sign showing the 275th celebration is in effect for the First Congregational Church of Chicopee. TURLEY PHOTOS BY BRENDAN ROONEY

First Congregational Church of Chicopee marks 275 anniversary

By Brendan Rooney
Correspondent

CHICOPEE — For nearly 275 years, the bells of the First Congregational Church of Chicopee have echoed through times of war, peace, and hardship, serving as a steadfast community landmark and a place of refuge, support and fellowship.

Founded in 1751, the church has stood as a cornerstone of the region’s history, witnessing generations of change while remaining steadfast in its commitment to faith, compassion, and service to others.

Today, the congregation holds services every Sunday, led by the Rev. Gary Grimes, while remaining active in a variety of community initiatives. The church continues to uphold an open-door policy through efforts such as Regina’s Pantry, a free food pantry established in 2019. The pantry is open Sundays from 2 to 3:30 p.m. and provides a hot meal on the third Sunday of each month.

Upon reviewing historical documents, during the 275th anniversary celebration, from earlier this summer on June 28, the Chicopee Register uncovered the origins of the congregation, and discovered that the congregation was once housed under the umbrella and connected to the original ‘First’ church under the leadership of the sons of Deacon Samuel Chapin of Springfield, aka The Puritan, in 1675, nestled in the “old parish of Springfield,” long

See FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH page 9



Agawam City Council President Anthony Russo with Sheriff Nick Cocchi and a supporter. TURLEY PHOTO BY BRENDAN ROONEY

IN THE CITY

Celebrity Bartender Fundraiser raises \$10K

By Brendan Rooney
Correspondent

CHICOPEE – The Rumbleseat Bar & Grille hosted the Fifth Annual Celebrity Bartender Fundraiser in honor of the Chicopee Boys & Girls Club Officer Angela Santiago Financial Aid Fund on July 30.

The event raised over \$10,000, which will now be utilized to help provide financial assistance to families in need.

“This event is our way of carrying on Officer [Angela] Santiago’s legacy, who was a dear friend of the club, and we know it’s one of those dates on the calendar that brings everyone together, and it’s always a special moment to be a part of, and bear witness to,” Chicopee Boys & Girls Club Executive Director Jason Reed said.

Reed explained that the non-profit is in remembrance of Officer Angela M. Santiago, a United States Army veteran, Chicopee Police Officer, and beloved community member, whose life was defined by service, compassion, and an unwavering commitment to helping others; something Santiago’s mother, Ann Marie Correa, touched upon.

“She was always about the children and supporting the youth, and making an impact by helping anyway she could; that was Angela’s legacy,” Correa said. “I think this is a wonderful turnout, just like every year; we always get a lot of people that bring new faces all the time, and look around, this is what community is all about, and I’m just very happy that we can do this in honor of Angela.”

Echoing similar sentiments was Santiago’s step-mother, Kathleen Santiago, who shared a story of Angela’s enduring spirit during her time of service as a police officer that touched many hearts.

“Angela always carried a fundamental belief in seeing the best in people, and never letting them feel they weren’t good enough or not worthy of achieving the goals they always wanted to pursue,” Santiago said. “She was a trailblazer and always saw the



It's a group photo for the Margarita Marauders as supporters stop by.

humanity in someone above all. Her kindness stretched no limits, because let it be known that the people that she arrested, she would go see them weekly to provide the resources and materials necessary to explore all avenues and options of growth, to ensure they wouldn’t fall back into the environment she pulled them out of.”

Providing insight into how this partnership formed was Rumbleseat Bar & Grille Owner Billy Stetson.

“We’ve been involved with this event since the beginning, and I can confirm it continues to get bigger and bigger from the year prior,” Stetson said. “I also want to add that I’m heavily involved with the Boys & Girls Club, as I was on the committee that brought the Haven Teen Center to the city, which continues to be an incredible resource for the city, and I’m really proud of the fact that Jason[Reed] and his staff from the Boys & Girls Club continue to look to us for help, because the truth is we are always ready to step up and offer our services to ensure a night like no other, while benefiting a wonderful cause.”

Meet your lineup
The star-studded event was vastly different this time around from years prior; in-

stead of a single competition featuring local celebrities from across the city pouring drinks behind the service wells, this outing featured an all-out team challenge consisting of five teams, which consisted of the “Old School OTB Crew, led by captain Katie Domingos(Bonavita Aesthetics), that offered a classic Watermelon Margarita; Tip Me, Baby One More Time led by captain Melanie Wilk (Chicopee Public Schools), joined by Krystal Carvalho Collab & Cocktails), Crystal Childs (Domorre Marketing), and Ashley Gladden (The Alley Yoga Collective), who rolled out an espresso martini.

The Margarita Marauders, led by Captain Melissa Breor, executive director of the Chicopee Chamber of Commerce, alongside Youseff Fadel of New England Promotional Marketing, Jeff Goulet of Loophole Brewing, and Deb Dart of Chicopee Industrial Contractors, brought a pirate-themed flair to the event with their signature “Peg Leg” margarita.

Another team, the NextHomes, was spearheaded by Captain Danielle Arsenault of NextHome Elite Realty and joined by Natalie Kelley, Brenda Chicone, and Laurie Fijal. The group brought a taste of summer to the festivities with its refreshing,



Tip Me, Baby, One More Time assembled and excited to start the event.

tropical-inspired peach margarita.

Lastly, the “Pit Crew,” led by Robert Pion of Bob Pion Buick GMC and joined by Angela Leon and Sara Kapinos, rounded out the lineup with its signature “Pit Stop Punch.”

Gone but never forgotten
The Angela Santiago



Old School OTB Crew posing for a team photo.

Foundation continues Santiago’s mission of investing directly in youth by providing scholarships, financial assistance, and access to programs that support education, sports, recreation, and personal growth. Santiago believed every young person deserved encouragement, opportunity, and

someone who believed in their potential. Her legacy lives on through every child supported.

The non-profit’s next event is next month on Saturday, Sept. 26 for the Third Annual Angela Santiago Memorial Ride. It starts at 10 a.m. and kicks off from the Chicopee Moose Lodge.

Chicopee Comprehensive High School Class of 1986 40th Class Reunion

CHICOPEE - The Chicopee Comprehensive High School Class of 1986 will celebrate its 40-Year Class Reunion on Saturday, September 26, 2026, at The View Street Tavern in Chicopee. Appetizers, cash bar, music, dancing - and an opportunity to reconnect with classmates. For those interested, a round of golf will

also be held that morning/afternoon.

Classmates are encouraged to email their current contact information to chicopeecomp86@gmail.com to receive future reunion updates and to let us know if you plan to attend.

We look forward to celebrating 40 years with the Class of 1986!

Chicopee Parade Committee lists upcoming fall events

CHICOPEE - The St. Patrick’s Parade Committee of Chicopee is planning two events in the fall to support its participation in the 2027 Holyoke St. Patrick’s Parade Committee.

The third annual Designer Purse Bingo will be held on September 12, 2026, at the Portuguese American Club, 149 Exchange St., Chicopee. All guests must be 18 years of age or older. Doors will open at 4pm. Games will start promptly at 5 p.m. Prizes for the lucky winners will be designer handbags.

Admission is \$35, which includes 10 bingo card games and a door prize entry ticket. Dabbers will be available for purchase. Additional bingo

card games can be purchased during the event. Tables of eight can be reserved for \$240.00 and must be paid in full no later than Sept. 2. Checks should be made out to Chicopee Parade Committee and mailed to P.O. Box 495 Chicopee, MA 01021, or brought to 1 Central Ave., Chicopee during regular business hours (8:00 AM - 5:00 PM) Monday thru Thursday.

Attendees are welcome to bring snacks but must purchase beverages from the bar. Tickets for donated baskets will be available for purchase. Photos will be posted on the committee’s Facebook page for those interested in a preview of the prizes. For more information or to reserve a

table, call or text Alivia @ 413-378-5694 and leave a full name and good contact # where you can be reached.

New this year: A Golf Tournament will be held on Saturday October 3, 2026, at the Chicopee Country Club, 1290 Burnett Rd., Chicopee. Fee is \$120 per Golfer which includes 18 holes of golf with cart, lunch and dinner. Cost is \$440 per foursome. Diner only tickets may be purchased for \$40. There are also sponsorship opportunities available from \$100 through \$1000. For more information or to register, call 413-531-5161 or e-mail ChicopeeSPC-golf@gmail.com.

Links to register for both of these events will be set

up through zeffy and posted on the committee’s Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/chicopeespc/>. More information will be posted as it becomes available. Proceeds will support the Chicopee contingent’s participation in the Holyoke St. Patrick’s Day Parade.

The St. Patrick’s Parade Committee of Chicopee strives to promote Irish pride and culture through its many events. For over 70 years, the committee has organized the annual Colleen Contest and Coronation Ball, constructed the Colleen’s award-winning float, and awarded scholarships to young women who plan to further their education at a college or university.

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IN THE CITY

Chicopee Public Schools announces school bus camera

Program begins enforcement of illegal school bus passings

CHICOPEE – The City of Chicopee has announced the official start of its school bus safety program in partnership with BusPatrol, the nation’s leading child safety technology provider, emphasizing a shared commitment to protecting students as they travel to and from school across the community.

Beginning August 26, 2026, motorists who illegally pass a stopped school bus will receive a citation and fine by mail. This full-scale school

bus safety program launch follows a warning period that was unveiled and has been operational since earlier this year.

Chicopee Public Schools will also conduct a public awareness campaign to educate drivers about Massachusetts school bus stopping laws and remind motorists of their responsibility to stop when a school bus is loading or unloading students.

“The safety and well-being of Chicopee’s children is a shared responsibility and keeping students’ safe means all of us doing our part,” said John Vieau, Mayor of Chicopee. “Passing a stopped school bus is not only illegal, but dangerous, and puts the

lives of our children at risk. Chicopee has zero tolerance for this reckless behavior, and our partnership with BusPatrol reinforces our commitment to protecting students.”

“Chicopee Public Schools is proud to partner with BusPatrol. This program not only provides an important layer of protection for our children as they travel to and from school but also encourages safer driver behavior on the road that benefits everyone. This partnership solidifies the step in the right direction to ensure that students travel safely on the buses to and from school” said Dr. Ware, Superintendent of Chicopee Public Schools.

The safety program utilizes AI-powered stop-arm cameras installed on local school buses to detect potential violations when a driver illegally passes a school bus while the stop arm is deployed. The cameras capture the license plates of vehicles that illegally pass school buses, along with video of the potential infraction. The Chicopee Police Department will review the footage to determine whether a citation should be issued.

“Our goal is to make safe driving around school buses second nature,” said Justin Meyers, President and Chief Innovation Officer of BusPatrol. “During this back to school, we are proud to

partner with Chicopee Public Schools and the City of Chicopee to encourage safer driving around school buses and protect children on their journey to and from school.”

Chicopee Public Schools operates a fleet of 119 school buses, all of which will have access to the school bus safety technology as part of the program. The technology is designed to help deter illegal school bus passings, improve compliance with traffic laws, and provide school and law enforcement officials with evidence to review potential violations.

These programs are statistically proven to change driver behavior. More than 90% of drivers who receive a

first-time violation do not repeat the offense, helping improve compliance and making roads safer over time.

Massachusetts law requires motorists to stop when a school bus is stopped to allow students to board or exit, and its red warning lights are flashing, and stop signal arm is extended. Drivers must remain stopped until the warning signals are deactivated, except when approaching the opposite direction on a divided highway.

Massachusetts law also prohibits motorists from operating within 100 feet behind a school bus. Under state law, failing to stop for a school bus carries a \$250 fine for a first offense.

Chicopee Public Library hosts programs for kids and families

CHICOPEE - Each month the Chicopee Public Library hosts a variety of free programs for children, teens, and families. The Youth Services Department provides opportunities for entertainment and enrichment that promote literacy and explore creativity. At the start of a new school year, the library often makes changes to schedules and program offerings, so even if you are a frequent visitor, some things here might look a little different. Here is the slate of events for September 2026.

Little Kid Dance Parties will happen on Tuesdays, Sept. 1, 15 and 29 at 10:30 a.m. Little ones ages 0-5 are invited to move and groove with their caregivers. If the weather’s nice we’ll be outside on the library’s back patio.

Babies 0-12 months and their caregivers are invited to Baby Time on Tuesdays Sept. 8 and 22 at 10:30 a.m. Baby Time will include rhymes, songs, lap bounces and a short story, as well as some unstructured play time.

Play Bingo for Books on Wednesday, Sept. 9 at 6 p.m. Play a few rounds of bingo and win the best prize: books! For kids and families of all ages, no registration required.

Storytime will be on Thursdays, Sept. 10 and

24 at 10:30 a.m. Join us for 30 minutes of circle time with read-aloud books, songs and rhymes, followed by a craft or activity. For ages 2-5.

Saturday Playgroup will be held on Saturdays, September 12, 19 and 26 at 1 p.m. We’ll put out some extra toys in the playspace. It’s a great time for families with kids of all ages to meet up and play.

On Saturday, Sept. 12 from 2 to 3 p.m. the creators of the DinoMap podcast will be tabling in the Children’s Room. Learn about the geology and fossils of the Connecticut River Valley and where you can go to visit them! Listen to the DinoMap podcast at: www.nepm.org/dinomap

Build with LEGO on Wednesday, Sept. 16 at 6 p.m. Bring your creativity and hang out with our big pile of bricks. Best for ages 6 and up.

The library will host an Afternoon Craft for kids on Thursday, Sept. 17 from 3 to 4 p.m.

The library’s meetup for homeschooling families is going to be a Homeschool Book Club this fall, which will meet once a month to discuss a book and do an activity based on that book. At this first meeting on Wednesday, Sept. 23 at 11 a.m., we will choose books for future meetings.

Sewing Club returns on Wednesday, Sept. 30 at 3:30 p.m. Learn and practice basic sewing skills by making fun projects. Great for ages 6 and up. Teens welcome! If you are not familiar with using a needle and thread, bring an adult to help. September’s project will be a beaded embroidery hoop.

Teens

Teens in middle and high school can participate in our new Craft Club, hosted twice per month after school at 3 p.m.! Each meeting will feature a different, exciting craft! For the month of September, Felt Pennant Flags will be made Wednesday the 9th, and we’ll be making custom buttons and bookmarks from recycled materials on Wednesday the 23rd!

Fans of comics and manga are encouraged to stop by on Tuesday, Sept. 29 at 6:30 p.m. for our new Bring Your Own Comic (B.Y.O.C.) Club! It’s like a book club, except you get to read whatever you want! Share your thoughts about whatever comic you’re currently reading, discover new stories from fellow fans, get to hear about new additions to the library’s collection, and more!

Visit our website for more info about all of the library’s events! www.chicopeepubliclibrary.org.

City of Chicopee notice of smokestack demolition on Uniroyal Property

CHICOPEE – The City of Chicopee is providing an update regarding the anticipated demolition of the smokestack at the former Uniroyal property, located at 154 Grove Street. According to Michelin North America Inc., demolition work is now scheduled to take place beginning on Tuesday, August 18.

This notice is being provided for informational purposes only to keep Chicopee residents informed about the scheduled demolition activity by Michelin North America Inc.

As previously announced, the smokestack will be removed in a controlled manner, with the structure being dismantled row by row. The work will remain within the property, with the demolition

area restricted to authorized personnel. Residents may experience temporary increases in noise during work activities. Contractors will implement appropriate safety measures, including dust-control practices, to minimize impacts on the surrounding area.

Out of an abundance of caution, the levee along the rear of the property should be avoided while demolition activities are underway.

The city appreciates residents’ patience and understanding and will continue to provide updates if there are further changes to the demolition schedule. For any questions or concerns residents are urged to call the Planning Department 413-594-1482.

Dozynki Mass on Aug. 30

INDIAN ORCHARD – Immaculate Conception Church, 25 Parker St., Indian Orchard will hold a Dozynki (Harvest) Solemn Holy Mass with Bishop William D. Byrne on Sunday, Aug. 30 at 10:15 a.m. with reception after Mass until 12:30 p.m.

Cost is \$20 per person (pre-ordered tickets only).

Tickets are available after all Masses and at Rectory until Aug. 23.

There will be food from traditional harvest table (bigos, kielbasa, bread, pickle, dessert, coffee).

Second option: served 12:30 p.m. to 6 p.m.: Kielbasa placed in a Portuguese roll \$8, Bigos (Hunter’s stew) with bread or roll- (bowl) \$8 Pickles \$1 each.

Cash Bar--Wine.-Wino, Beer-Piwo (Zywiec, Harnas) Water-Woda available.

Basket Raffle and 50/50. Lottery tree sponsored by Rosary Sodality.

A bake sale by members of our parish members and a variety of activities for children and youth will be available..

www.turley.com

Boys & Girls Club of Chicopee offers teens a safe and fun place to go after school

CHICOPEE - As the school year begins, the Boys & Girls Club of Chicopee is proud to offer the Haven Teen Center, a dedicated space for teens aged 13 to 18. This drop-in membership program is designed to offer a safe, supportive, and fun environment where teens can build skills, make lasting friendships, and explore new opportunities. Haven provides an after-school program Monday - Friday from 2:30 to 5:30

p.m. and a teen night program Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 6 to 8:30 p.m. The cost to participate is \$30 per year, per program.

Teens are involved in the following and can participate in homework help and tutoring, a games room, athletic programs, nutrition programs, college tours and special events. Currently, teens are working in the digital media room creating original songs or covers, voice acting, 3-D

printing, painting projects and a cooking club.

To explore career development and help with future goals, partnerships have been created with Junior Achievement of Western Mass, Holyoke Community College and Mass Hire.

For more information on how to register or to schedule a tour, please contact Stephen Osgood, the Teen Site Manager at 413-592-6707 ext. 4104.

Knights of Columbus Car Show

CHICOPEE - Knights of Columbus, 460 Granby Road, Chicopee holds a car show every Wednesday

evening from 5 to 9 p.m., rain or shine. All makes, models and projects. Food trucks on site. Free entry.

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CLUES ACROSS

1. A vast desert in Africa

7. Reciprocal of a sine

10. Type of phone

12. Biblical figure

13. One who renounces a religious belief

14. Warren and Monroe are two

15. Wild ox

16. Dismounted a horse

17. Cave dweller

18. Where infants sleep

19. Popular type of shoe

21. Clumsy large person

22. Evil-like

27. Integrated circuit

28. Austin-based athlete

33. Postscript

34. Follows 18

36. People of Gambia

37. Popular actor

38. Platform for a lectern

39. Taxi

40. American songwriter Sammy

41. Iranian city

44. Heavy clubs

45. One who is expelled

48. In bed

49. Lifelessness

50. Former CIA

51. Most slick

CLUES DOWN

1. Slovenly person

2. In addition

3.hovels

4. Pie ___ mode

5. Subway rodent

6. They ___

7. Indigenous S. American people

8. Fine sand

9. Central nervous system

10. Nightclub entertainment

11. The perfect example of something

12. Supreme Islamic leader

14. Pain

17. Binary-coded decimal

18. Projecting corner of an angle

20. “Succession” actor Brian

23. Dinner table decor

24. Ancient settlement in modern Turkey

25. You can call Paul Simon this

26. Opposite of a pro

29. Atomic #28

30. Type of drug (abbr.)

31. Arrives at

32. Nullifies

35. Bird’s beak

36. Partner to “oohed”

38. Ray-finned fishes

40. Taxis

41. Sat on and controlled

42. Sea eagles

43. Remain as-is

44. Chinese revolutionary

45. Tooth caregiver

46. Snakelike fish

47. Compensate

EARLY DEADLINES

In observance of Labor Day, there will be an **EARLY AD, PUBLIC NOTICES & CLASSIFIEDS DEADLINE**

To advertise, place your ad no later than **NOON**

Thursday, Sept. 3

— Thank you!

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Random Acts of Kindness

By Barb Turcotte

Last week I panicked because both interviews had to be postponed, then I thought, why not just share some previous stories.

When I started writing these monthly articles over five years ago, I did separate stories for each paper about a resident from their own town. Then I realized that we all cross communities so I began writing one story a month and having it published in all the papers. I've met so many incredible people it was very difficult to choose which I should include so I may have to do another article like this in the future.

Agawam

Nancy Vellozo decided to have a tag sale. A newlywed couple came to buy a dresser in a beat-up old truck but instead of taking their money, Nancy offered the bureau as a wedding gift. Then a dad and his young daughter came to look at a bedroom set. The little girl was so excited that this was going to be her new 'big girl' bed that Nancy, thinking of her own granddaughters, just couldn't charge dad for it.

Janice Truelove shared when her family went through some tough times, they'd been the recipients of some amazing kindnesses. One Thanksgiving they received a full dinner, then on Christmas her children were given two new bikes! She never forgot, so when her family was doing better, she enjoyed giving back. She organizes Easter egg-hunts for the neighborhood children, for Halloween she always creates a creepy new theme and Christmas is for giving.

Chicopee

Ally Montemagni tragically lost her cousin Jenna Burleigh at the age of twenty-two and rather than focus on the loss, chose to concentrate on Jenna's goodness. Ally and her family created a Foundation called, "Jenna's Blessing Bags" that Ally and her father are Board members of. They get donations, then working with various police departments, distribute them to the homeless whether in a shelter or living under a bridge.

Sue Peloquin spear-headed the idea of a thrift store in the basement of the Trinity Lutheran Church in Springfield where items are beautifully displayed. She and all the staff are volunteers using the proceeds to help support the church in various ways. Sue even offers to pick up some donations to help you out.

Ludlow

Jamie Gagnon overheard her teacher tell her mother, "God didn't give Jamie a good brain" and another told her, "Jamie will never make a good student, only a good person to go shopping with." Those overheard words impacted Jamie's life, creating in-

tense insecurities, but in the end, she proved them wrong by publishing a children's book, 'Imagine My Love'. It's a story about a mother's love and she's donated many of her books.

Natalina Tulik & Michelle Annetchiarico have created "Second Time's A Charm" formal-wear shop. Natalina had sticker shock shopping for her daughter's prom gown but felt awful when her daughter's friend had to refuse her invitation because she couldn't afford a gown. Natalina noticed after the dance, everyone was trying to sell their gowns, hence her idea became a reality. People donate their dresses, which Natalina & Michelle clean before displaying. They ask for a donation of what the 'buyer' can afford and even get new gowns donated from a local bridal shop.

Wilbraham

Peter & Kelly Elias paid the check when a co-worker and I brought eight residents to lunch, normally each is responsible to pay for their own. When asked why they'd done that, very humbly he said, "They don't generally tell people when they do things, they just do them anonymously but the waitress squealed on them". He shared that his mom was a young widow leaving her to raise three children yet she always found a way to give to others. He said it warmed his heart to see a group of women her age laughing and enjoying each other's company.

Phil (Philomena) Hanrahan has volunteered by donating to the American Red Cross regularly. She's a volunteer on the Springfield St. Patrick's Day parade committee, where in 2018 was honored as the 'Irish Person of Year'. She also volunteers at the Hampden Senior Center, is a Eucharistic Minister at St. Mary's Church, all while also being her neighbor's caregiver for the last five years. Her daughter teaches in a low-income school and when Phil had clothes to donate, her daughter took them to distribute. Phil solicited her friends who were looking to do something other than exchanging gifts amongst themselves. Instead of the \$200 Phil thought they'd collect, they actually collected \$600 and therefore able to help two families from the school.

I hope you've enjoyed reading these Random Acts of Kindness as much as I enjoyed hearing them. I'd love to hear about how you spread positivity.

If you'd like to share a Random Act of Kindness story or if this one has touched you, please contact me at bdt514@aol.com or 413-575-9385. Who knows, you might see your story, 'Just 'Cause' you witnessed, you did or were the recipient of a kind gesture. See you soon with another Random Act of Kindness! ~ Barb

OPINION

Preservation questions are popular this time of year

Dawn, who gardens in Tolland, asked a few questions of the Garden Lady this past week.

You see, this is the first year in three years that Dawn has a had a productive garden. Her former garden was too far from the house to be tended. It was tricky to irrigate and animals often found their way through or under the fence.

Dawn's hard work ended up being a hearty meal for woodchucks and more. Now, with raised beds close to her house, she is grateful for a bountiful harvest.

First, she wanted to be reminded how to roast tomatoes.

I enjoy roasting my cherry tomatoes; it's a great way to use them up when they produce like gangbusters.

Depending on the size, I either cut them in half or quarters and put them no more than two rows deep in a roasting pan. I sprinkle a teaspoon or two of extra virgin olive oil over the tomatoes and then I add half an onion and two-three cloves of garlic.

After mixing all the ingredients together, I bake at 400 degrees for about an hour, stirring midway. You know when it is done when the skins pucker and there is very little liquid left. Now you can either eat it this way, say over pasta or rice, or you can zip it up with a few basil leaves and you have made your own sauce.

No need to de-seed or remove the skins. Just think, all that added fiber and goodness, with less work to boot!

You can tailor your roasting to suite your own taste buds as well. Some folks add chopped peppers or eggplant.

Certainly you can use any type of tomato, too and add additional herbs or spices.

Speaking of peppers,



Dawn also wanted to know how to roast peppers. It's a little different from tomatoes.

Peppers roast best when they are fully ripe – i.e., when they have changed color. I have mentioned it before, but my favorite roasting pepper is "Carmen," a long bell pepper with thick walls.

Simply wash the fruits and position them whole in a single layer under the broiler, turning frequently until they bubble up and char slightly. This can also be accomplished on a gas grill or as my husband will attest, over the flame of your kitchen gas stove.

Once charred, place them in a paper bag or covered container. The steam will soften the skin to the point it can be rubbed off, revealing yummy, thick flesh.

Pull off the stem and remove the seeds and voila! Roasted red peppers are yours to freeze.

I just blot mine dry and put them in single servings in plastic freezer bags. The fruit is easily thawed by placing the bag into a shallow basin of water; likewise, you can pop the pepper popsicle on to a plate and let it thaw in the fridge.

Roasted peppers are fantastic on homemade pizza or blended into hummus.

I shared with Dawn that I was making pickles. She went on to say that hers never turn out well, so I texted her a copy of a recipe given to me by a dear coworker over 20 years ago. I am still making them.

I'm not sure who originally gave Ron the recipe,



but here it is for anyone wanting to use up an abundance of cucumbers. I've made it with full size cukes as well as picklers.

I would recommend that you fill your canning jars, be it quart or half gallon, with the cucumbers first. They can be packed tightly.

Then, add plain water to the jar all the way to the rim. Dump the water out into a large measuring cup to see just how much liquid you need.

Then you can adjust the other ingredients to the ratio in the recipe. I learned this trick the hard way after wasting ingredients because I didn't need quite a double recipe.

Ron's Pickle Recipe

Ingredients:

14-16 cucumbers
8 teaspoons pickling spice

6 dill tops
6 cloves garlic
2 teaspoons sugar
4 tablespoons Kosher salt
1 cup vinegar
5 cups water

Instructions:

Combine all ingredients into canning jars. Shake and leave on counter for 36 hours. Refrigerate for two days before eating. Will keep in the fridge for a few months although the flavor will intensify with storage.

Roberta McQuaid graduated from the Stockbridge School of Agriculture at the University of Massachusetts. For 34 years she has held the position of staff horticulturist at Old Sturbridge Village. She enjoys growing food as well as flowers. Have a question for her? Email it to pouimette@turley.com with "Gardening Question" in the subject line.

Chicopee Register

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The deadline for submissions is Tuesday at noon.

WE CARE ABOUT YOUR NEWS!

The Chicopee Register welcomes submissions of news in or related to Chicopee and its residents. Our "People News," is filled with submitted engagement announcements, wedding announcements, birth announcements, your new baby or news about your 25th or 50th anniversary celebrations. Please e-mail correspondence along with a photo to chicopeeregister@turley.com or send it to: Chicopee Register, c/o Turley Publications, 24 Water Street, Palmer, MA 01069.

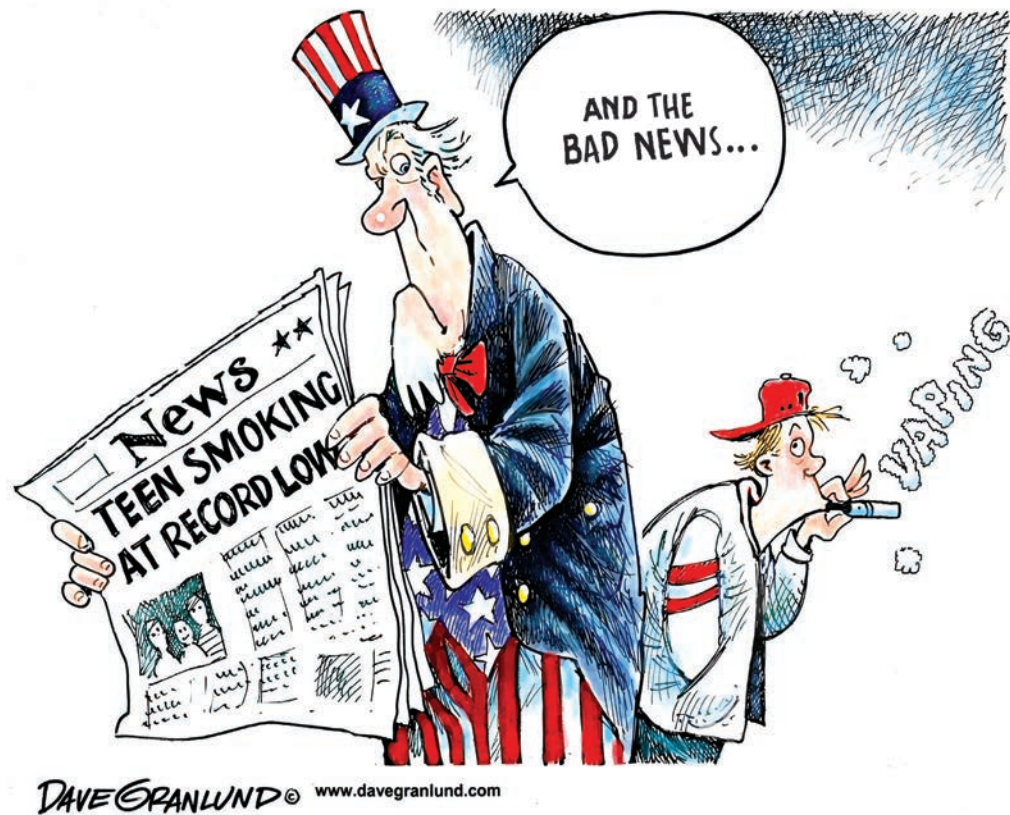
Election letters to the editor

The Chicopee Register welcomes readers to participate in this year's election campaigns by writing letters to the editor for publication on these pages. Letters of up to 250 words from local residents endorsing candidates on the ballot or discussing campaign issues should be sent to Chicopee Register care of Turley Publications, 24 Water St., Palmer, MA 01069, faxed to 413-289-1977 or emailed to journalregister@turley.com. Please include a daytime telephone number for verification purposes (it will not be printed). Letters must be received by noon Monday to be considered for that Thursday's newspaper. No attack letters will be printed. No letters written by candidates supporting their own candidacy will be printed. If the volume of letters received is larger than the space available in the newspaper, or if the letters become repetitive, the newspaper reserves the right to print a representative sample. No endorsement letters will be printed in the last edition before the election. For more information, call the editor at 413-283-8393.

Campaign news

As part of its election coverage, the newspaper plans to print stories about contested races for Congress, state Senate, state House, district attorney and Governor's Council during the weeks leading up to the election, as well as a question-and-answer voters guide. In order to ensure fairness to all candidates, no political press releases will be printed, nor will reporters cover political rallies or fundraisers.

Candidates who wish to further publicize their candidacy, beliefs and events may contact advertising, 413-283-8393 about paid advertising in Chicopee Register.



PEOPLE/MILESTONE NEWS

As a free service for our readers, we will print all births, weddings, engagements, milestone anniversaries, major birthdays, military achievements, honors and awards. We have a "people news" form available for you to submit these listings. This material is provided to us by our readers and local institutions and we do not charge to print this content.

For more information, or to submit people or milestone news for The Chicopee Register, please email chicopeeregister@turley.com.

IN THE CITY

Excitement expressed for new school year and district HQ

It's been a week of celebrations for the school district

By Dalton Zbierski
Correspondent

CHICOPEE – For all the right reasons, this week will long be remembered by the students, staff and administrators who call Chicopee Public Schools home.

Wednesday, Aug. 26, marked the first day of the 2026-27 academic year, and a ribbon-cutting ceremony was scheduled for Friday, Aug. 28, at 1 p.m. at the district's new headquarters on Exchange Street to celebrate its opening.

Readers can read about the opening of the district's new headquarters in next

week's edition.

Both developments had members of the city's School Committee abuzz at their final meeting of the summer, which was held on Aug. 19.

During the public announcements portion of the meeting, numerous ward representatives expressed their enthusiasm about the Exchange Street facility and new school year.

"The excitement surrounding us being downtown and the adding of that building with the small businesses that are popping up are starting to revitalize downtown," Ward 6 School Committee Representative Sonny Brooks said.

Brooks pointed out that the headquarters' location in Chicopee Center is ideal for students and families.

"The public has great access to it, and I'm very proud to be part of this movement to bring us downtown and bring us right to the people," Brooks said.

At-Large Representative Susan Szetela-Lopes said she was driving to last Wednesday's meeting when she saw the new sign for the administrative building on Exchange Street. She encouraged residents to attend Friday's ribbon-cutting festivities.

"Thank you to everyone who worked so hard because I know you all had to. Chicopee is a great place for us to live. Thank you for that," Szetela-Lopes said.

Superintendent Dr. Marcus Ware commended the district's facilities staff for its strong effort preparing the

former Westfield Bank training center for its new role.

"I will say that words won't do it justice of how [hard they worked] to make this move happen, working with Five College Movers," Ware said.

Ware added that the district's IT Department and telecom staff also contributed greatly, as the district moved from its old home on Dulong Circle this summer.

"I think they have probably disassembled and reassembled too many computers in a short period of time. They probably should be in the Guinness Book of World Records for being able to do so," Ware said.

Ware noted that the district is officially calling the building its "Central Office."

He said last Wednesday that final preparations were still being made ahead of the ribbon-cutting ceremony on Aug. 28.

"We're still putting things away, we're still beautifying the place, and we look forward to having the public come [on Friday]," Ware said.

Ware also shared that early last week, a retreat was held for all the district's central office and building administrators.

"The activity that we did represented that we have administrators who represent 9 years of experience all the way through 34 (years)," Ware said. "So, when we talk about experiences in our ranks, we have a wide spread."

Ware emphasized that he was thrilled by the group's

vibe. He expressed that the collective experience of the administration makes it clear the district can retain its employees.

"Once again, the range is there, and I want the viewing public to know that so when you hear commentary out in the public that we are not retaining people, we 100% are," Ware said.

Prior to last Wednesday's meeting, the district held its new educator orientation. That was another positive session, according to the superintendent.

"The energy that was in the room was infectious," Ware said. "I'm really looking forward to all the educators we welcomed into our ranks today and who are ready to be of service to our children."

ICE CREAM
from page 1

commencement speaker at Elms College—has been on his reading list this summer and he enjoyed meeting the families.

"What I enjoy the most is the company and getting to meet new friends, share ice cream—probably one of the best ice cream sundaes I've ever had—and to do that with some very special people as we, sadly, end our summer, for some, but it's exciting to start a new school year," Vieau said.

Vieau added community events are special to him as they bring everyone together.

"It's wonderful to have a free event and everyone gets to participate and have the same experience," Vieau said. "So, to get a wonderful sundae and see these amazing people that, you can tell, the staff, they're all a bunch of givers. You can feel that. It's a comforting place that everyone feels welcome. It is special. The library, a lot of people spend time here and it's become, really, a hub for the community to come and not just borrow a book. I've met the yoga instructor and there's a lot of extracurricular things that you can do here."

Also, how the city loves to socialize and connect.

"An ice cream social's the best way to do it," Vieau said. "They were here enjoying this beautiful library and I think that's just an add-on to come out and socialize and color, jumping up on a bounce house and eat an amazing sundae."

Vieau praised the library staff.

"Collaborating with the library is, just, they're wonderful people, and you can tell by the patrons who are all happy. They know them by name; they build relationships. It's more than just a public building. It's a special place. The Chicopee Library is an amazing, wonderful place to come and do more than read a book," Vieau said.

CPL Director Laura Bovee explained "it was a really awesome day" for the event. She's read "Yesteryear" by Caro Claire Burke and "Land" by Maggie O'Farrell this summer.

"It's a nice way to mark the end of the summer and the end of our summer reading program and just let everybody have a fun time," Bovee said.

Bovee said the pavilion was funded through the Community Development Group and was built two summers ago, officially opening last year.

"It transforms this backyard area from a really hot, too sunny area, into a shaded, beautiful oasis. We've got some chairs people can sit in and come have a coffee break or a lunch break during their day or just come with their dog or their kids and hang out in this area and it makes it a more comfortable space to be in," Bovee said.



The Chicopee Public Library staff with Mayor John Vieau in a group photo.

TURLEY PHOTOS BY KRISTIN RIVERS

Besides seeing families come out for the event, Bovee added she was thrilled to see everybody take part in the variety of programming the library offers. Fall and winter events are actively in the works.

"It's wonderful. It is literally what we're here for. We're here to provide, fund educational opportunities for kids, families, adults, teens, everybody. It's always a wonderful thing when we can see that happen over the summer, particularly," Bovee said.

She emphasized how the event brings together the community as well.

"Anything we can do to bring folks together is wonderful," Bovee said.

"Free ice cream—who can argue with that—and a chance for kids to run around and get to know one another, families to mingle and get to know one another. It's just a really nice community feeling."

Vieau's message to families was to enjoy the rest of summer and have a happy new school year.

"As chairman of the School Committee, we want to make sure that your kids are receiving the best education we could possibly offer, number one, and a safe, comfortable learning environment, number two, and I believe we accomplish that every year and I'm looking

forward to a new one," Vieau said. "I'm excited for the kids to get back to school, for us to get back to regular session and there's still a lot more to do."

Bovee's message was to

continue supporting your local library.

"Come back. The library has so much fun stuff to do. We're a good resource for homework, job search, computer usage. We have puzzles and games for kids and adults to do when they're in the library. We have stuff like that that you can take home. There's just a wealth of things here, so come and find out what's here," Bovee said.



A close-up shot of the ice cream sundae with all the trimmings and toppings.



The Chicopee Public Library staff also volunteered their time to serve ice cream.



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IN THE CITY

FARMER'S MARKET
from page 1

cruiting all different types of vendors. Luckily, we had a great group who were enthusiastic about coming back, and we also have a lot of new vendors here. The hardest part was getting farms on board because it's so late in the season," Brittan said.

Brittan also shared why she believes farmer's markets are so important to bring to the community.

"It's just a great opportunity to be able to bring activity downtown, in the center. I think it's been kind of a hole in our community without the farmer's market. So, being able to kind of reinvigorate that spark, it's felt like a privilege for sure," Brittan said. "Celebrating community, meeting your neighbors, the opportunities to support local businesses who might not have a storefront downtown. But it creates so much more access, especially through the Chicopee Center. It's the best place for visibility, and also just bringing back the economic activity downtown."

Brittan explained what community members can expect from each of the upcoming farmer's markets.

"So, we will have new vendors for every market, so there's always something new to check out. Hopefully, we'll have a couple of food trucks rotating in as well, little something different every time. Live music, and we're actually going to be bringing in a series called The Community Spotlight. Which is where we showcase one community organization per market. So, they could share about their resources and their organization," Brittan said.

Shannan Swinton was one of the vendors that first day back.

Swinton shared what she enjoys about running her



Shannan Swinton with Shanndolls Beauty Lounge with her booth at The Center Fresh Farmer's Market.

beauty business and bringing homemade beauty produce workshops to the community.

"Educating people. The simple things that can be found in your kitchen, that could be all natural and helpful for your skin. I love working with all ages. I work with seniors and then I work with the little ones. Just bringing that education to all different levels I really enjoy," Swinton said.

Plant Moms Owner Zenaida Smiley shared what she enjoys about caring for plants.

"It's emotional. The hope it gives you. When it's kind of on its last limb, and it gives you that 'Hey, I'm still here girl,'" Smiley said.

Smiley emphasized why she feels events like these are so important to the flourishing of the community of Chicopee.

"I get to know what other people are doing in my community. I like to meet, definitely meet new people. It's good to be home. So, it's good that my home is creative," Smiley said.

Smiley then talked about Plant Moms and their collaboration with MassHire Holyoke.

"So, Plant Moms in collaboration with MassHire Holyoke is able to bring plant life to the Hampden County Western Mass Wellness Recovery Center. So, Plant Moms goes and teams up with MassHire Holyoke and we go there and we help them with everything from A to Z with employment and all that," Smiley said.

Upcoming Center Fresh Farmer's Markets will be located at The Hub at Market Square—both inside and out-



Jen Wanzo with Midnight Paintings by Wanz was also at The Center Fresh Farmer's Market.

side—on the first and third Wednesdays from now until Nov. 18 from 2 to 6 p.m.

Food trucks will be open at 1 p.m. for lunchtime as well.

Here you can find many local vendors selling art, jewelry, photography, books, plants, beauty products, woodwork and more. You can also expect food trucks at each farmer's market.

It should also be noted that EBT/SNAP payments are not available currently, but this is being worked on.

To learn more, check out the Center Fresh Farmer's Market Facebook and Instagram pages.



Jacklyn Pliska with Wanczyk Produce at The Center Fresh Farmer's Market on Aug 19.

COCCHI COOKOUT
from page 1

chusetts in the next couple of years, an element Cocchi highlighted.

"Today is about bringing Western Mass, not just Hampden County, together to show the rest of the Commonwealth the electoral power and value we hold here, while also granting the opportunity for the public to speak with the individuals who are going to be on the ballot this year," Cocchi said. "And it's clear we have some contested races this year, which include Democrats, Republicans, and unenrolled folks. So this gathering is always special because it creates a moment of allowing the public to figure out where they will throw their support."

Additionally, months before the fundraiser, Cocchi and the HCSO faced significant financial challenges when approximately \$26.5 million was removed from the department's fiscal year 2026 budget allocation, prompting the department to scale back operations, per the request of the OIG (Office of the Inspector General).

"The sheriffs were very comfortable and strong in the services that we're providing our communities, and we're going to continue to fight," Cocchi said. "We're going to fight for our individual counties and the programs that we believe are instrumental in impacting not only jail programs, but also the programs that are on the outside that are deterring people from hopefully coming here. So, that means working with youth, engaging with students and schools, and, obviously, working with those who are incarcerated to help them return to the community with a more constructive outlook and a greater opportunity to become productive, law-abiding citizens."

Lastly, Cocchi admitted he is ready to renew conver-



Hampden County Sheriff Nick Cocchi with the Holyoke connection, including Mayor Joshua Garcia and Holyoke Police Chief Brian Keenan.

sation after elections come and go.

"Well, I'm looking forward to a year of continued dialogue with the legislature and the administration to see if we can rectify this unsuccessful funding mechanism that has been given to the sheriffs over the past 25, 30 years, because the bottom line is the sheriffs of the commonwealth do good work, and we will continue to do so," Cocchi said.

Massachusetts State Auditor Diana DiZoglio used the event to highlight her efforts to promote greater transparency in state government, while calling on the administration to support a state audit approved by 72% of Commonwealth voters in the 2024 election.

"Unfortunately, our state legislators just voted to overturn that law, stripping away our right to have this matter adjudicated in court and giving the Speaker of the House

full control over the audit," DiZoglio said. "So all we can do is continue to push forward, and let the citizens of the Commonwealth know that we're still advocating and fighting for the official and public release of the 72% voter-mandated audit."

She then added, "Because the truth is the people have spoken, so my message is simple: Call your legislators. Call the governor. Ask the governor to veto this bill, because otherwise the legislature is getting ready to overturn the law you voted for. That reeks of authoritarianism, and it doesn't resemble the democratic nature of our state."

Holyoke Mayor Joshua A. Garcia and Chicopee Mayor John Vieau both touched upon the value that Cocchi's fundraiser offers.

"Today is a reflection of the deep-rooted leadership that Sheriff [Cocchi] embodies, and continues to deliver on,"

Garcia said. "He is extremely supportive and has been a main proponent of helping develop new relationships, while implementing a sense of innovation while keeping the public safe, and delivering an opportunity to all."

Vieau said, "This celebration is always a special day because it exemplifies the connections and level of trust that the Sheriff's Office has created, which in turn has been extremely beneficial to all of Western Mass." He also added, "It was great to see everyone here today, and I want it known that it wasn't just political leaders; it was business owners, stakeholders, and proud supporters of the Cocchi army."

All funds from the event went towards the Sheriff's election committee.

Voters now face upcoming deadlines ahead of the state primary on Tuesday, Sept 1.



Boomer from the Springfield Thunderbirds stopped by and danced on the center stage.

SPORTS

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Tyler Supczak, of Wilbraham, makes the easy trap.



Aidan Monaghan, of Agawam, tries to play the ball off his chest.

Boys take silver in 2026 Bay State Games

By Tim Peterson
Sports Correspondent

FITCHBURG — A year ago, Chicopee’s Griffen Wrisley and Minnechaug’s Tyler Supczak were starters for the West soccer team which captured the Gold medal at the annual Bay State Summer games.

The duo were the only returning starters on this year’s West squad.

The West team took home the Silver medal at the Bay State Summer Games following a 2-1 loss to Central in this year’s Gold medal match, which took place at the Game On Sports and Performance Center in Fitchburg on July 11.

“I was lucky enough to be a member of the Gold

medal team last year,” Wrisley said. “We have a bunch of new players on this year’s team and were hoping to win the Gold Medal again. It’s a lot of fun being a leader of this team.”

The other members of the West team, who live in the Turley Publications coverage area, are John Carra (Agawam), Zacharia Yarovoy (Chicopee), Antonio Maurico (Chicopee), Aidan Monaghan (Agawam), Kayson Gauthier (South Hadley), Spencer Parsons (South Hadley), and Braeden Fitzgerald (Agawam).

The West team finished pool play with a perfect 4-0 record.

See **BOYS**
page 8



Lucas Cruz hustles past mid-field.

TURLEY PHOTOS BY GREGORY A. SCIBELLI



Kelsey Morrisette, of Chicopee, starts her way up the field.



Kalli White, of Granby, is pressured as she heads through the middle of the field.

Girls represented by two squads at Bay State Games

By Tim Peterson
Sports Correspondent

FITCHBURG — While the other sections of the state only had one girls’ soccer team competing in this year’s Bay State Summer Games, Western Mass. was represented by two teams for the first time.

The West Red team was coached by Matt Mosher, while Eric Woods guided the West Yellow team.

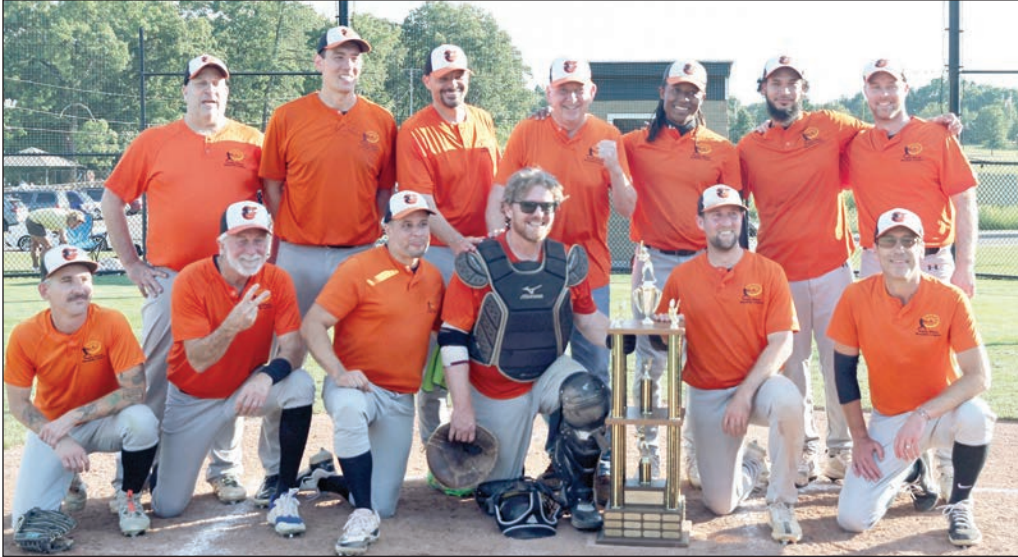
The two squads faced each other in the final pool

See **GIRLS**
page 8



Taylor Bartosz, of Wilbraham, looks to clear the ball on defense.

TURLEY PHOTOS BY GREGORY A. SCIBELLI



The Orioles are the 2026 Valley Wheel Over-28 Baseball League champions.

TURLEY PHOTOS BY DAVID HENRY WWW.SWEETDOGPHOTOS.COM

Orioles repeat as Valley Wheel champions

WILBRAHAM — On Saturday, Aug. 15 at Spec Pond in Wilbraham, the Orioles defeated the Angels 15-8 in the championship game. The Orioles were propelled by nine runs in the first two innings. While the Angels would manage some offense later in the game, it was not enough to come all the way back in the matchup.

The Angels were this year’s pennant winners, taking first place with an 11-4 record. The Orioles won the championship for the second year in the row. They defeated the Twins in last year’s championship game.

TURLEY PHOTOS BY DAVID HENRY WWW.SWEETDOGPHOTOS.COM

Nate Carrill makes a throw down to second.



Sam Maxwell makes a backhand play.



Mike Burgos delivers a pitch for the Orioles.

Teddy Bear Pools takes playoff title in Tri-County

By Tim Peterson
Sports Correspondent

THORNDIKE — For the first time since 2012, the Tri-County League championship title belongs to a baseball team other than PeoplesBank.

The third-seeded Teddy Bear Pools & Spas ended the second-seeded PeoplesBank twelve year dynasty after sweeping the best of three semifinal series. Teddy Bear then captured the championship trophy for the first time since the 1980’s with an 8-4 victory over the top-seeded St. Joseph’s Saints in last Sunday’s night decisive game three held at St. Joe’s Park in Thorndike.

“Before the start of the regular season, I thought we had the most talented team

in this league,” said Teddy Bear player/manager Ryan Magni. “We have a couple of outstanding college baseball players on our roster, which made the biggest difference. It does feel great to win the championship title, but I do have a lot of respect for St. Joe’s.”

Ryan Magni played for St. Joe’s for eight years before switching sides a couple of years ago. His younger brother, Brandon, was the St. Joe’s starting first baseman in game three.

Ryan Magni started the game in centerfield before replacing righthander Brendan Fournier on the mound in the bottom of the seventh inning.

See **TRI-COUNTY**
page 8



Teddy Bear Pools becomes the first new playoff champions in more than a decade.

TURLEY PHOTOS BY DAVID HENRY WWW.SWEETDOGPHOTOS.COM



Joey DeMichele makes a play for St. Joe’s.

SPORTS

GIRLS from page 7

game on July 11 at the Game On Sports and Performance Center in Fitchburg.

After building a 3-0 lead, the Red team withstood a late comeback by the Yellow team for a 3-2 victory.

“We had more than 40 girls’ try out for the two soccer teams, which shows how popular the sport is in Western Mass.,” said Mosher. “Eric and I have a very good relationship. We try our best to make the teams equal. It’s has been a lot of fun coaching this team.”

It was the sixth consecutive year that Mosher coached a Western Mass. girls’ soccer team at the Bay State Summers Games. His previous teams won two Silver Medals and three Bronze Medals.

Mosher was assisted by Laura Wray-Ramos, who’s the longtime girls’ varsity soccer coach at Agawam High School.

The members of the Red team, who live in the region, are Filomena Stellato (Agawam), Hannah Haesaert (South Hadley), Kyra Lippmann (Holyoke), Gabriella Ramos (Agawam), Riley Platt (South Hadley), Audrey Afonso (Ludlow), Olivia Izzo (Agawam), Bridget Benoit (Belchertown), and Bri-Anne Kraus (Granby).

“All of the players on my soccer team have been playing with and against each other for years,” Mosher said. “They know each other very well.”

After finishing pool play at 2-1-1, the Red team surged to a 3-0 win over Northeast in the Gold medal game. It marked the first time that a West girls soccer team won the Gold medal at the Bay State Games since 2016.

“It’s very exciting being a member of this soccer team,” Haesaert said. “There



Margaret Healey, of Granby, looks to get around an opponent.

are a lot talented soccer players in the west.”

The Red team began pool play with a 2-1 loss to Northeast. The following day, they tied Central, 1-1, before celebrating a 3-0 shutout win against Southeast/Coastal.

During the past couple of years, Woods, who coaches the girls’ soccer team at the MacDuffie School in Granby, coached the Central/West team at the Bay State Games. His team won the Gold medal in 2024.

“The Central team had a mixture of players from Central and Western Mass. during the past couple of years,” Woods said. “It’s nice to coach a team with only players from the West. Soccer is a very popular sport in Western Mass.”

The Yellow team lost to Central, 5-0, in the Bronze medal game.

The members of the Yellow team, who attend a high school in the region, are Taylor Bartosz (Minnechaug Reg.), Kelsey Morrisette (Chicopee Comp),

Grace Sherman (South Hadley), Sofia Marsh (Granby), Cecelia Litz (Agawam), Kalli White (Granby), Margaret Healey (Granby), Grace Curto (Agawam), Mackenzie Lynch (Agawam), Sydney Germain (Chicopee), Cayla Ribeiro (Chicopee), Eleanor Szlosek (Granby), and Jordyn Szado (Monson).

The Yellow team (0-3-1) began pool play with a pair of 4-1 losses to both Central and Northeast. They managed to tie Southeast/Coastal, 1-1 the following afternoon.

In the West vs. West match-up, Healey scored a penalty kick goal and added a corner kick goal.

“It was really a lot fun playing in the Bay State games for the first time,” said Healey, who’s a rising sophomore. “I enjoyed competing against the other players from the West.”

It was an enjoyable three days in Northern Worcester County for the two girls’ soccer teams from Western Massachusetts.

Pacers boys’ soccer team. He needs only three more goals to reach the 100 goal milestone. He currently has 116 career points.

Hugo Destapado, who coached the West team at the Bay State Summer games last year, is returning as the Pacers varsity boys’ soccer coach.

“I would’n’t be a successful soccer player without the help of my coaches,” Wrisley said. “I’m looking to playing soccer for one final season at Chicopee High School.

The Pacers are scheduled to host Northampton in the season opener on Labor Day. They’re also scheduled to play another match against Frontier Regional at historic Szot Park two nights later.

TRI-COUNTY from page 7

St. Joe’s scored two runs against the righthander in their final at-bats. The game came to an end when Brandon Magni hit a ground ball to the second baseman against his older brother.

“I’ve faced my brother many times over the years,” Ryan Magni said. “I didn’t have my best stuff tonight, but I didn’t make it very easy for him.”

St. Joe’s, who lost to Peoplesbank in last year’s championship series, was looking to win the TCL title for the first time since 2006.

“They just capitalized on our mistakes in tonight’s game,” said St. Joe’s manager Paul Marcinek. “It would’ve been nice if we could’ve scored a few more runs. We did win the regular season championship with a 16-4 record, and we have nothing to be disappointed about.”

Marcinek was assisted by Brian Hayes this season.

With one-out in the top of the first inning, Teddy Bear had runners on first and third when right fielder Willie Landman hit a ground ball up the middle. St Joe’s shortstop Jacob Hayes made an outstanding diving stop before tagging second base and throwing a strike to Magni completing the inning ending double play.

Jacob Hayes, who’s a member of the UMass Dartmouth baseball team along with his brother Jackson, belted a double to right center leading off the bottom half of the opening frame. Brandon Magni followed with a groundball single into left field putting runners at the corners. St. Joe’s took a 1-0 lead when centerfielder Pat Fitzgibbons hit a blooper just out of the second baseman’s reach which scored Hayes. Magni also crossed the plate following a throwing error by the catcher.

Fournier, who graduated from Chicopee High School in 2017, retired 17 of the final 18 St. Joe’s batters that he faced. St. Joe’s only base



Alex Gochinski takes a swing.

runner during that stretch was Fitzgibbons, who hit a triple to right field with one-out in the sixth inning.

“I struggled in the first inning, but I started throwing more off speed pitches that kept them off balance. My teammates also made the plays behind me,” said Fournier, who was the winning pitcher. “I’ve been playing in this league for almost ten years, and it feels great to finally win a championship.”

Teddy Bear cut the deficit in half against righty Jack Feltovic in the third inning.

With one-out, catcher Mike Toth, who graduated from Granby High School, was hit-by-a-pitch. Second baseman Ramon Jimenez singled to right field putting runners at first and third. Then Landman hit a sacrifice fly to right.

Jimenez graduated from Chicopee High School before playing Division 1 college baseball at Boston College and Central Connecticut. He was intentionally walked in his other three plate appearances.

The visiting team took the lead for the first time two innings later.

Ryan Magni and Jimenez reached base via walks, which was sandwiched between a Mike Toth flyball single, which loaded the bases with one out. Left fielder Josh Frometa (2-for-3) blasted a triple to center giving his team a

4-2 lead.

“The bases were loaded and I was looking for a pitch to drive,” said Frometa, who played baseball at Chicopee High and A.I.C. “It was a huge hit at that point of the game, and it feels great to win the championship title.”

After scoring an unearned run in the sixth, Teddy Bear scored three more runs in the top of the seventh against lefthander relief pitcher Jackson Hayes. The key hit during that frame was a bases loaded double by first baseman Will Kennedy, who played for St. Joe’s several years ago.

Teddy Bear entered the bottom of the seventh inning holding an 8-2 advantage.

St. Joe’s DH Adam Zebian drew a walk against Ryan Magni leading off the final frame. Zebian was replaced at first base by pinch runner Adam Przybycien. Left fielder Ryan O’Leary followed with a triple to center scoring Przybycien. O’Leary scored on an infield hit by catcher Nate Carillon, who graduated from South Hadley High School.

Ryan Magni settled down and got out of the jam by retiring the next three batters, including his younger brother.

Teddy Bear Pools & Spas will be looking to defend their championship title in the summer of 2027, but challengers like St. Joe’s and People’sBank will be looking to knock them off the top of the mountain.

SUPT. OUTLINES PROGRESS from page 1

are doing well with mathematics. He also pointed out the correlation between math and multi-language learners.

“When it comes to multi-language learners, even though we’re looking at math, we need to build their reading skills so that they... can actually do the crosswalk between using their reading skills to access math problems,” Ware said.

Another portion of Ware’s presentation focused on chronic absenteeism. He said the state is looking to get back to pre-pandemic statistics.

“I would say we’re just trying to generally improve each year because we know that absenteeism is still a concern post-COVID,” Ware said.

The superintendent noted that absenteeism districtwide dropped by 1.3% last year, with strong progress made by students with disabilities, who saw a 5.4% increase, and multi-language learners, who registered a 4.2% boost.

Meanwhile, Chicopee Academy remains a challenge, as that school saw a 4.2% increase in absenteeism. That didn’t phase Ware, however.

“Overall, the district performed very well here, meaning we got students to school. We got them here,” Ware said. “And, so, the next step is now that they’re here, what do we do with them in the classrooms and what happens when they’re in the classrooms.”

Ware said the attendance numbers are exciting and a step in the right direction, especially in comparison to other school districts in the region.

“I’m going to put it out

there; that is not the case in other districts that are similar to ours because I communicate with my colleagues. I’m proud to see the numbers that we have,” Ware said.

It was also calculated that the 1.3% drop in chronic absenteeism means approximately 90 more students attended school regularly in Chicopee.

When discussing effective operations and equitable resources, Ware divulged that the UMass Boston Edward J. Collins, Jr. Center for Public Management is conducting an independent review of the district’s operations.

“We have some work to do. One of the things that I know we’re working on is really standardizing PPPs – or procedures, processes and protocols,” Ware said.

The superintendent explained that there has been a longstanding culture of, when a person leaves the district, “their knowledge goes out the door.”

The district is currently trying to better standardize how things are done and communicated.

Ware emphasized that this is not a knock against the district’s employees.

“One of the things I want to be very transparent about is that this is why I said I didn’t want to sugarcoat. I don’t think this is horrible, but I do recognize that there’s work to be done there,” he said.

In terms of fostering caring and respectful places to learn, Ware referred to the strategic plan.

“These are things that the community put out in the strategic plan. That’s not my plan. It’s our plan,” he said.

Over the course of last school year, Ware went to 10 schools in the district and met with hundreds of students at all age levels during their

lunch periods.

“I was having conversations with them around our four core values and anything else they wanted to talk about. What I was gathering in that moment was how much do our students [embrace] these four values – belonging, joy, respect, growth,” Ware said.

It was generally found that students who are part of clubs, sports teams, band, drama or pathways had more favorable reviews regarding their high school experience.

Ware also stressed that the values mean different things to students at different age levels.

Along the lines of empowering and valuing students, staff and educators, Ware noted that different initiatives have been put in place such as the snack cart in the Bowie Elementary School hallway and the annual students vs. staff basketball game at Lambert-Lavoie Elementary School. These are meant to boost morale in each building.

Regarding family and community connections, Ware had previously pledged that the district would increase its family and community engagement by 20% from the previous year and establish at least two new sustainable partnership initiatives to support students’ learning and well-being.

Ware was pleased by the progress being made in this area. He said that the PowerPoint couldn’t capture the essence of the positive momentum being built.

“I don’t have enough slides to put all the pictures, all the events and all the offerings that go on in our district,” Ware said. “This is not representative of the dozens of programs that happened in our district.”

SOCIAL SECURITY from page 4

to the standard Part B premium, then the SS beneficiary may pay a smaller Part B premium amount so that their SS benefit doesn’t decrease (note there are exceptions to this rule).

Conversely, those with a higher “provisional income” (an IRS definition), may pay more than the standard Medicare Part B premium. That’s because of a provision known as IRMAA, which adds a supplemental amount on top of the standard Medicare Part B premium.

IRMAA supplement amounts are determined using a sliding scale to define the required higher Part B premium for each income level category and IRMAA will cause the Part B premium to be more than the standard premium amount.

For those with exceptionally high incomes, the

Part B premium can be as much as \$690 per month.

For your information, income reported to the IRS two years ago is used to determine if an individual is subject to IRMAA for the forthcoming year.

The reason for this is timing: when next year’s Part B premium is determined in October of each current year, the IRS has processed all tax returns for the preceding year but doesn’t yet have individual income for the current year.

Thus, they must use a person’s income from October of the preceding year to determine who will pay the standard Part B premium next year, and who will pay a higher IRMAA amount.

And just to complete this picture, you should be aware that IRMAA also applies to Medicare Part D premiums. And that means that those with higher incomes who are affected by IRMAA for Part B will also

pay a higher Medicare Part D premium.

Medicare Part D is private insurance coverage for prescription drugs). But none of this is related to your Social Security benefit amount.

The Association Mature Citizens Foundation and its staff are not affiliated with or endorsed by the Social Security Administration or any other governmental entity. This article is intended for information purposes and does not represent legal or financial guidance. It presents the opinions and interpretations of the Association Mature Citizens Foundation’s staff, trained and accredited by the National Social Security Association To submit a question, visit amacfoundation.org/programs/social-security-advisor or email us at ssadvisor@amacfoundation.org. Russell Gloor is a Social Security advisor for AMAC.

IN THE CITY

RiverMills hosts Sarah Clay and the StarCats

By Christina Gioscia
Correspondent

CHICOPEE - Sarah Clay and the StarCats performed a concert at the senior center on July 30. The StarCats is a jazz group comprised of Sarah Clay on vocals and flute, Bob Ferrier on guitar and Steve Bulmer on bass and he also does the musical arrangements for the band.

At the beginning of the StarCats performance, Clay explained to the audience that every year the band chooses a theme to base their song selection around. This year the band chose the theme, ‘Daydream’. Clay stated that the songs the band picked to fit this year’s theme include themes of love, yearning, romance, sadness, insomnia, and nostalgia.

By picking a theme that covers such a broad overview of feelings and emotions, The StarCats are able to bring the audience along on a musical journey that explores different stories, situations, and relationships.

After the show, Sarah Clay explained to us how the band creates their theme each year and selects songs to fit their theme.

“We kind of throw out ideas. And it’s one thing to have an idea, but are there songs that will fit things? And are there any songs that Steve wants to do an arrangement for? I like to incorporate as many of his arrangements as we can. Maybe repurpose them, but, you know, it’s such a gift to have a talented arranger in the band,” Clay said.

Clay highlighted that the song selections must include something for each band member. The band works together during the performance to deliver the best possible music while allowing each members talents to shine through the song selections.

Clay shared how her and her band members feel about performing and being able to share their musical talents with different communities.

“It’s such a joy. It’s such a gift to be able to perform. I

mean, having an audience is a treat. It really is. And working with these guys is just a joy. We all love to perform. I love to tell stories, not only through songs, but also to connect with them for the audience so that they know what to listen for,” Clay said.

During the performance Clay mentioned that The StarCats have never performed at RiverMills Senior Center before. Attendance was high for their show on that Thursday.

Clay also highlighted the importance of music being made accessible through free shows such as this one and shared that her and her band members are happy to have a role in the mission of the Chicopee Cultural Council.

“The mission of the Cultural Council is to bring the arts to people. I love that I can bring music to an audience. Because especially as seniors, a lot of times, they don’t drive at night. So, they can come here in the daytime. And, I’m happy to perform at night,” Clay said. “But, they don’t



Sarah Clay performing the flute during the StarCats performance.

TURLEY PHOTOS BY CHRISTINA GIOSCIA

have to buy tickets. They don’t have to buy dinner. It’s free, that means it’s accessible to everyone. It’s bringing the arts to where people are. We’ve never performed here before. This place is great. We had a huge crowd, they gave us a standing ovation.”

After the show, which ended in a standing ovation from the crowd, several au-

dience members approached the band members to thank them for such a lively and imaginative performance. It’s clear Clay, Ferrier and Bulmer all enjoy sharing their musical talents with the community to create a welcoming atmosphere where audience members can feel comfortable to sit back and enjoy the show, while appreciating the

hard work that each member of the StarCats puts into every performance.

For more information about Sarah Clay and the StarCats visit clayjazz.com/starcats.

For more information about upcoming events at the senior center, check out their monthly newsletter or call 413-534-3698.



One section of the original news clippings from the early 19th century.

CONGREGATIONAL
CHURCH
from page 1

before the inception of Chicopee, where countless generations for nearly 75 years attended service and listened to ballads of service, until fate forced a pivotal decision to transpire one day.

Starting to notice a shift in the climate of the time, and the realization that the road to travel was quite difficult and showed no proper solutions, a petition was drawn by 49 men—24 of whom were Chapin’s— calling for the church to be divided, with the original congregation to be revered as a fifth parish of Springfield, while setting the boundaries and foundation to embarking out on their own

to create their own church. A roadblock then emerged as the initial petition was denied and brought before the Massachusetts General Court, which ultimately granted the initial request to begin construction.

As a result, the original meetinghouse was completed in June 1751, standing at the southern corner of what is now McKinstry Avenue and Chicopee Street; to clarify, it was the first building, as the second building, which continues to be of service, was created in 1825, a confirmation that Bill McKinstry, a descendant of the first minister, John McKinstry, shed light on the history.

“The building we are currently standing in now is only 200 years old, because the original church was about 100

yards down the road, from where we are,” McKinstry said.

He also highlighted the congregation’s resilience and its continued ability to thrive.

“I just feel this is truly amazing, and it’s great to know that our family continues to have a place in the church, and having the chance to go through the various photo albums they still have which contain some of my ancestors, and great aunts, and uncles, it’s a special moment to reflect on, and understand that life continues to go, but the amount of history remains present,” McKinstry said.

He acknowledged that some historical records have been lost over time, sharing that the church continues to do its best to preserve the legacy and integrity of both his family and the congregation.

“Some things aren’t always easy to find, because, unfortunately, old records have disappeared, from papers being affected by water damage to the ink smudging off, but the ones we do have really tell and offer the truth of how society and our civilization were different, so it’s truly fascinating to explore and look back,” McKinstry said.

During the potluck luncheon, additional history was brought to light by Grimes, and history was solidified.

“The church, while under the leadership of Rev. Eli B. Clark, led members of this congregation to assist in helping enslaved people find freedom through the Underground Railroad, as one of these tunnels, which is now blocked off, was used during that time,” Grimes said. “So, this church has been progressive for 275 years, and I still believe we have a long way to go, and hopefully that we will be here for another 275 years.”



A look at the exterior of the First Congregational Church of Chicopee.

a plaque to commemorate the church’s anniversary of being in service.

“I want to congratulate you all on your 275th anniversary; it’s truly a remarkable milestone, and may this award continue to strengthen this congregation and inspire your leadership, to guide this ministry into this very unknown future, as a beacon of light and hope for many years to come,” Wright said.

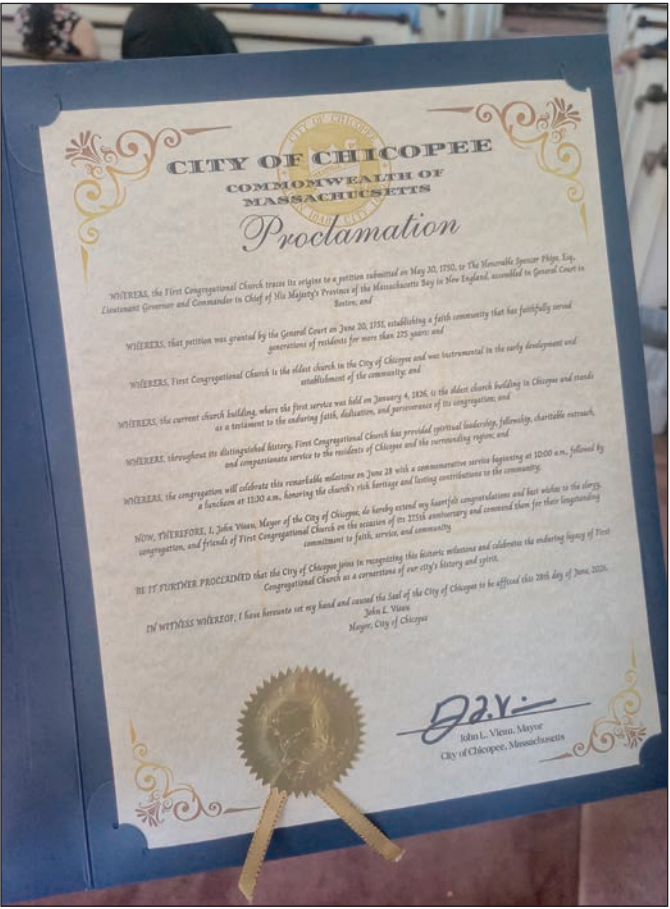
In addition, local dignitaries who joined the celebration included Mayor John Vieau, who presented an official proclamation recognizing the church’s enduring legacy and resilience, and State Sen. Jake Oliveira (D-Ludlow), who also delivered remarks.

“Today is an incredible day for all because Gary[Grimes] is such a great partner, and again, just shout-out to the congregation for what they do as far as raising funds for food and clothing, which is donated back to the community, it’s clear that everyone associated with the church has fulfilled their mission of generosity, over the course of these 275 years, and I wish and hope for 275 more, we are a part of history, and this is special,” Oliveira said.

The First Congregational Church of Chicopee is located at 306 Chicopee St, in the city, and their phone number is (413) 592-0396. Service is every Sunday at 10 A.M., and it is recorded and can be found on social media.



A cake showing the church’s logo, during the celebration.



Mayor John Vieau’s proclamation commemorating the 275th anniversary of the First Congregational Church of Chicopee being in service.



State Sen. Jake Oliveira (D-Ludlow) with Rev. Gary Grimes.

PUBLIC NOTICES

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Hampden Probate and Family Court
50 State Street
Springfield, MA 01103
(413)748-7758
Docket No. HD26P1767EA
Estate of:
Roger Earl Bacon
Date of Death: 07/29/2026
CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION

To all interested persons:
A Petition for Formal Adjudication of Intestacy and Appointment of Personal Representative has been filed by Lori Spellman of Ormond Beach, FL and Kenneth Bacon of Holyoke, MA requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

The Petitioner requests that Kenneth Bacon of Holyoke, MA and Lori Spellman of Ormond Beach, FL be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve Without Surety on the bond in unsupervised administration.

IMPORTANT NOTICE
You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 09/15/2026. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

UNSUPERVISED
ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)

A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration.

WITNESS, Hon. Claudine T. Stoudemire, First Justice of this Court.
Date: August 19, 2026
Rosemary A Saccomani, Register of Probate
08/28/2026

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Hampden Probate and Family Court
50 State Street
Springfield, MA 01103
Docket No. HD17P0749PM
In the matter of: Mary P Kolodziej of Chicopee, MA
Protected Person/ Disabled Person/Respondent
CITATION GIVING NOTICE OF CONSERVATOR'S ACCOUNT

To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, you are hereby notified pursuant to Rule 72 of the Supplemental Rules of the Probate & Family Court, that the First account(s) of

Gayle Kolodziej of Southampton, MA
Daniel J. Kolodziej of Southampton, MA
as Conservator of the property of said Respondent has or have been presented to the Court for allowance.

You have the right to object to the account(s). If you wish to do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this court on or before 10:00 A.M. on the return date of 09/16/2026. This day is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline date by which you have to object to the account(s). If you fail to file the written appearance and objection by the return date, action may be taken in this matter without further notice to you, including the allowance of the account(s).

Additionally, within thirty days after said return day (or within such other time as the Court upon motion may order), you must file a written affidavit of objections stating the specific facts and grounds upon which each objection is based and a copy shall be served upon the Conservator pursuant to Rule 3 of the Supplemental Rules of the Probate & Family Court.

You have the right to send to the Conservator, by registered or certified mail, a written request to receive a copy of the Petition and account(s) at no cost to you.

IMPORTANT NOTICE
The outcome of this proceeding may limit or completely take away the above-named person's right to make decisions about personal affairs or financial affairs or both. The above-named person has the right to ask for a lawyer. Anyone may make this request on behalf of the above-named person. If the above-named person cannot afford a lawyer, one may be appointed at State expense.

Witness, Hon. Claudine T. Stoudemire, First Justice of this Court.
Date: August 12, 2026
Rosemary A. Saccomoni Register of Probate
08/28/2026

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Hampden Probate and Family Court
50 State Street
Springfield, MA 01103
(413)748-7758
Docket No. HD26P1765EA
Estate of:
David James Frankiewicz
Also known as:
David J Frankiewicz
Date of Death: 07/11/2026
CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION

To all interested persons:
A Petition for Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative has been filed by Jason R Frankiewicz of Midlothian, TX requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

The Petitioner requests that Jason R Frankiewicz of Midlothian, TX be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve Without Surety on the bond in unsupervised administration.

IMPORTANT NOTICE
You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 09/25/2026. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must

file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

UNSUPERVISED
ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)

A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration.

WITNESS, Hon. Claudine T. Stoudemire, First Justice of this Court.
Date: August 18, 2026
Rosemary A Saccomani, Register of Probate
08/28/2026

SALE OF
MOTOR VEHICLES
UNDER G.L. c.255 Sec. 39A
Notice is hereby given by Interstate Towing, Inc. pursuant to the provisions of G.L. c. 255, section 39A, that on September 4th, 2026 at Interstate Towing, Inc the following Motor Vehicles will be sold at private sale to satisfy our garage keeper's lien thereon for storage, towing charges, care and expenses of notices and sale of said vehicles.

2010 Audi A4
VIN: WAUFFAFL1AN055395
Edwin Rodriguez Vasquez
19 Bangor St.
Worcester, MA 01604
2015 Hyundai Santa Fe
VIN: 5XYZUDLB3FG284985
Jay Marek
16 Dewey St.
Easthampton, MA 01027

2020 Great Dane Trailer
VIN: 1GR1A0628LD178641
Sibley & Sons Construction Inc
PO Box 338
Lincoln, ME 04457
2023 Volvo VN VNL
VIN: 4V4NC9EH0PN611017
Rmmj Service & Delivery Llc
43 Summit St.
Elmsford, NY 10523

2013 Subaru Impreza
VIN: JF1GJAA62DH017027
Timothy Morin
19 Monson Rd.
Wales, MA 01081

2004 Chevrolet Trailblazer
VIN: 1GNDDT13S442333413
Shaun Texeira
73 Canton St
Springfield, Ma 01104

2010 Toyota Rav 4
VIN: JTMBF4DVXAD021310
Matthew Hamel
1063 Dwight St.
Holyoke, MA 01040

2012 Great Dane Trailers
VIN: 1GRAA0626CB703241
South Eastern Jet Express Inc.
11565 51st Pl.
Pompano Beach, FL 33076

2019 Kenworth Construct T680
VIN: 1XKYDP9X8KJ292031
Southeastern Jet Express Inc.
11565 51st Pl
Pompano Beach, Fl 33076

2009 Toyota Corolla
VIN: JTDBL40E199090965
Carlow, Linda C
85 Norman Rd. 106
Norwich, CT 06360

1981 Chevrolet Corvette
VIN: 1G1AY8767BS403172
Tyler Pinkham
1616 S Branch Pkwy.
Springfield, MA 01129

2008 Honda Accord
VIN: 1HGCP26868A048949
Davis, Alden Augustus
197 Goodwin St.
East Hartford, CT 06108

2008 Chevrolet Aveo
vin: K11td56688b070881
Nathan Antonio Bailey
27 Glemby St.
Hamden, CT 06514

2009 Ford F250
VIN: 1FTSW21569EA26745
Andrew Hartley
300 West Rd.
Westfield, MA 01085

2013 Subaru Impreza
VIN: JF1GPAC61DH857795
Mohamed Safraz Ahamed
93 S Maple St., Apt. 26
Westfield, MA 01085

2006 Honda Civic
VIN: 1HGFA16576L070653
Rivas-Deangel, Jaqueline Y
33 Rose Park Ave., Apt. 3
Stamford, CT 06902
08/21, 08/28, 09/04/2026

SALE OF
MOTOR VEHICLES
UNDER G.L. c.255 Sec. 39A
Notice is hereby given by Interstate Towing, Inc. pursuant to the provisions of G.L. c. 255, section 39A, that on September 11th, 2026 at Interstate Towing, Inc the following Motor Vehicles will be sold at private sale to satisfy our garage keeper's lien thereon for storage, towing charges, care and expenses of notices and sale of said vehicles.

2023 Jia Juess Moped
VIN: LLPTGKBF9P1120039
Jan Torres
23 Cherry St.
Westfield, MA 01085

2008 Subaru Impreza
VIN: JF1GH61688H814817
Marcialee Ayala
29 Pasco Rd., Apt. 2
Indian Orchard, MA 01151

2012 Audi S5
VIN: WAUCVAFR3CA003092
Damita Verdejo
119 Andrew St.
Springfield, MA 01109

2011 Honda Crosstour
VIN: 5J6TF2H50BL001636
Fernando Martinez
215 Allen St.
Springfield, MA 01108

2025 Tank Flying
VIN: HZ2TCDM43S1009587
Dabriel Aponte
PO Box 5127
Springfield, MA 01101

2016 Kia Rio
VIN: KNADM4A36G6531780
Leo Cloutier
172 Plimpton St.
Southbridge, MA 01550

2013 Volkswagen Tiguan
VIN: WVGBV7AX3DW012818
Peter Alvarez
PO Box 174
Lee, MA 01238
08/28, 09/04, 09/11/2026

SALE OF
MOTOR VEHICLES
UNDER G.L. c.255 Sec. 39A
Notice is hereby given by Interstate Towing, Inc. pursuant to the provisions of G.L. c. 255, section 39A, that on August 28th, 2026 at Interstate Towing, Inc the following Motor Vehicles will be sold at private sale to satisfy our garage keeper's lien thereon for storage, towing charges, care and expenses of notices and sale of said vehicles.

2011 Ram 1500
VIN: 1D7RV1GT6BS678800
John Chekovsky
31 Grove St.
Southwick, MA 01077

1989 Honda Civic
VIN: JHMED635XKS003210
Rosa Cruz
658 Union St., Apt. 2
Springfield, MA 01109

2006 Nissan Murano
VIN: JN8AZ08W06W545550
Marie Mobio
412 Summerfield Ave., Unit 313
Bridgeport, CT 06610

2006 Chevrolet Suburban
VIN: 3GNKG26G66G119062
Charles T Corning
7 Mulberry Ln.
New Rochelle, NY 10804

2013 Ford Focus
VIN: 1FADP3J24DL202963
Luis Junior Perez Sierra
698 Broad St., Apt. 301
Hartford, CT 06106

2013 Kia Soul
VIN: KNDJT2A63D7524590
Katherine Vannostrand
334 Woronoco Rd.
Woronoco, MA 01097

2006 Bmw X5
VIN: 5UXFA13586LY39601
Alexander Marano
037 Wyndermere Pl.
Ludlow, Ma 01506

2014 Honda Accord
vin: 1hgcr6f59ea010988
Melissa Marie West
367 Bee Hole Rd.
Loudon, NH 03307

2014 Toyota Camry
VIN: 4T4BF1FK5ER356211
Jose Contreras
6 Sackett St., Apt. 11
Westfield, MA 01085

2007 Mitsubishi Lancer
VIN: JA3AJ26E17U017178
Angel Guevarez &
Ashly Figueroa Pagan
135 Meeting House Rd.
Chicopee, MA 01013

2012 Acura TSX
VIN: JH4CU2F62CC000950
Deneishaliz Feliciano
276 Plainfield St.
Springfield, Ma 01107

2020 Land Rover Range Rover
VIN: SALGV2SE0LA568762
Nathan Nguyen
135 Seaport Blvd., Apt. 526
Boston, MA 02210

2018 Volkswagen Jetta
VIN: 3VW2B7AJ4JM263378
Rafael Hernandez
119 Lebanon Hill Rd.
Southbridge, MA 01550

2007 Honda Ridgeline
VIN: 2HJYK16317H548594
Adam Tirrell
68 Angeline St.
West Springfield, MA 01089

2003 Hyundai Santa Fe
VIN: KM8SC73E33U500288
Cristian Martinez Vazquez
23 N Summer St., Apt. 2b
Holyoke, MA 01040

2006 Kia Optima
VIN: KNAGE123565042928
Kristen Thrasher
175 Grattan St., Apt. 2
Chicopee, MA 01020

2005 Honda Accord
VIN: 1HGCM56405A114947
Jay Miranda
27 Whittier St.
Springfield, MA 01108
08/14, 08/21, 08/28/2026

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Hampden Probate and Family Court
50 State Street
Springfield, MA 01103
(413)748-7758
Docket No. HD26P1754EA
Estate of:
Robert A Remillard
Date of Death: 06/12/2026
CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION

To all interested persons:
A Petition for Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative has been filed by William T Remillard of Chicopee, MA requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

The Petitioner requests that William T Remillard of Chicopee, MA be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve Without Surety on the bond in unsupervised administration.

IMPORTANT NOTICE
You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 09/14/2026. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.
UNSUPERVISED

ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)

A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration.

WITNESS, Hon. Claudine T. Stoudemire, First Justice of this Court.
Date: August 17, 2026
Rosemary A Saccomani, Register of Probate
08/28/2026

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Hampden Probate and Family Court
50 State Street
Springfield, MA 01103
Docket No. HD17P0749PM
In the matter of: Mary P Kolodziej of Chicopee, MA
Protected Person/ Disabled Person/Respondent
CITATION GIVING NOTICE OF CONSERVATOR'S ACCOUNT

To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, you are hereby notified pursuant to Rule 72 of the Supplemental Rules of the Probate & Family Court, that the Second and Final account(s) of

Gayle Kolodziej of Southampton, MA
Daniel J. Kolodziej of Southampton, MA
as Conservator of the property of said Respondent has or have been presented to the Court for allowance.

You have the right to object to the account(s). If you wish to do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this court on or before 10:00 A.M. on the return date of 09/16/2026.. This day is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline date by which you have to object to the account(s). If you fail to file the written appearance and objection by the return date, action may be taken in this matter without further notice to you, including the allowance of the account(s).

Additionally, within thirty days after said return day (or within such other time as the Court upon motion may order), you must file a written affidavit of objections stating the specific facts and grounds upon which each objection is based and a copy shall be served upon the Conservator pursuant to Rule 3 of the Supplemental Rules of the Probate & Family Court.

You have the right to send to the Conservator, by registered or certified mail, a written request to receive a copy of the Petition and account(s) at no cost to you.

IMPORTANT NOTICE
The outcome of this proceeding may limit or completely take away the above-named person's right to make decisions about personal affairs or financial affairs or both. The above-named person has the right to ask for a lawyer. Anyone may make this request on behalf of the above-named person. If the above-named person cannot afford a lawyer, one may be appointed at State expense.

Witness, Hon. Claudine T. Stoudemire, First Justice of this Court.
Date: August 12, 2026
Rosemary A. Saccomoni Register of Probate
08/28/2026



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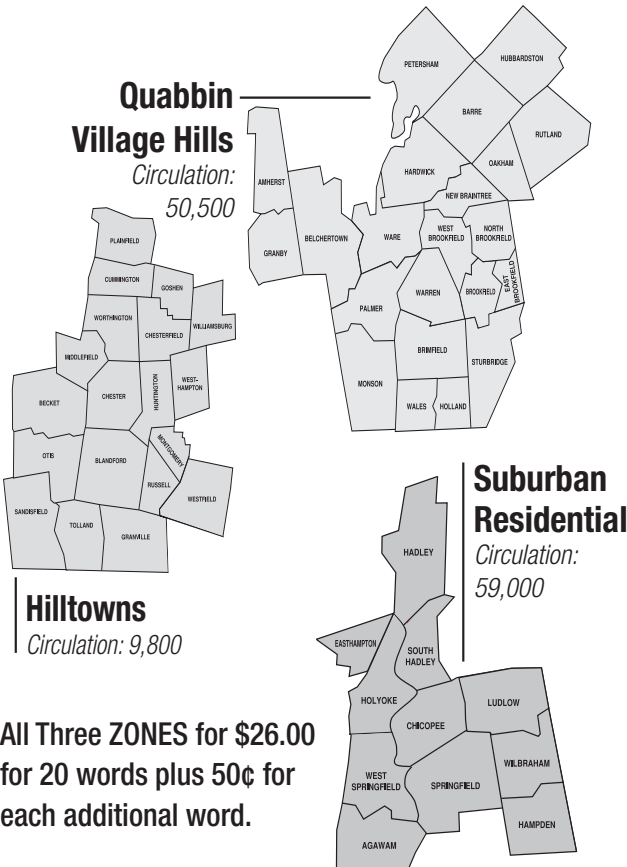
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